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## TUNNELS

Continued from Page 1

directions on walls), bottles of water and various tools.

I met my friends at midnight and went directly to a metal grate near Gerlinger Annex. As we kept lookout, one of the group opened the lock and beckoned us to enter.

One by one we descended a ladder into darkness. The last person closed the grate over our heads, and we were ready to start exploring.

The initial entrance into the tunnels was of concrete, dry and sloping downward. It was pitch black except for our flashlights.

We came to a fork in the passage, and I expected some discussion as to which way to proceed. To my surprise, one of the group pulled out an official map of the tunnels, printed by the University.

"They're easy to find ... if you know where to look," was all she would say.

We continued on.

The passages turned into concrete corridors that were at least seven feet tall. No need to crouch here. Along the walls were dozens of pipes and electrical conduits covered by plastic insulation.

We were occasionally confronted by doors made of steel bars. Most had a space big enough to squeeze through. At these places we would review the map and drink water before journeying onward.

The temperature was quite hot because of the close proximity of steam heating pipes. Several pipes not covered by insulation were dangerously hot to the touch.

The insulation itself was labeled either "asbestos" or "asbestos free." In the asbestos areas we donned air filter masks, although there was very little dust in the air.

There were fluorescent lights in every tunnel, small and triangular in shape. They were very bright if the switch could be found to turn them on. The

switches were of an old design that were activated by pushing a rod up or down through the switch-box.

Smaller passages would extend at right angles from the main tunnel, often going further than our flashlight beams could penetrate. We left these tunnels for later exploration.

We were not the first to explore the tunnels. Two parties in particular, "The Blue Nun" and "The Leper Crew" had left their marks in abundance on the passage walls.

We found an empty concrete room covered with fantastic designs and more graffiti courtesy of "The Imp" and "King B." In the center of the room was a card table with a sign on it, saying "The waiter will be with you shortly." This was perhaps the strangest thing we found in the tunnels.

Other items we found included a calculus book, beer bottles, a Levi denim jacket, Big Gulp cups and a strip of apparently genuine cheetah hide.

Of course, there are dangers in the tunnels. Twelve-thousand-volt circuit boxes (well-insulated, however) and boiling hot pipes make the journey a bit hazardous. Still, about the biggest danger we faced was hitting our heads on low-hanging obstacles.

The rumor of the "CIA tunnels" proved to be just that — a rumor. The tunnels under the University were built to house the water, heating, electrical and telephone lines that keep the institution running.

We finally exited by going up through a manhole opening near the University Physical Plant.

We were drained. After more than three hours underground we had gone from one side of the University to the other, crossing under the Eugene Millrace and Franklin Boulevard in the process.

The University sponsors tours of small sections of the tunnels, but you may find them a bit tame.

If that's the case, you could try to go in solo. It's an adventure you won't soon forget.

## CORRECTION

An article in the May 8 *Emerald* incorrectly paraphrased political science associate Professor Sumi Cho as saying African-Americans, Native Americans, Asian-Americans and Latinos/Chicanos have suffered more prejudice than other groups in the United States. Cho actually said the four racial groups have suffered unique oppression in the United States that most white ethnic groups have not, such as enslavement and segregation.

## ET ALS

### MEETINGS

Army ROTC will have its first fraternal meeting today at 5 p.m. in Agate Room 2.  
LASC will meet tonight at 6 in EMU Cedar Room A.

### MISCELLANEOUS

Career Development Internship Program will continue interview sign-ups today for summer internships in Room 247 Hendricks.

ASUO Executive will have a legislator phone-in today from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in EMU Cedar Room A.

Office of Academic Advising and Student Services will meet for academic advising for all interested freshmen at 10:30 a.m. in the EMU Fir Room.

Freshman Interest Group Program will meet for an advising session today at 3:30 p.m. in Room 302 Gerlinger.

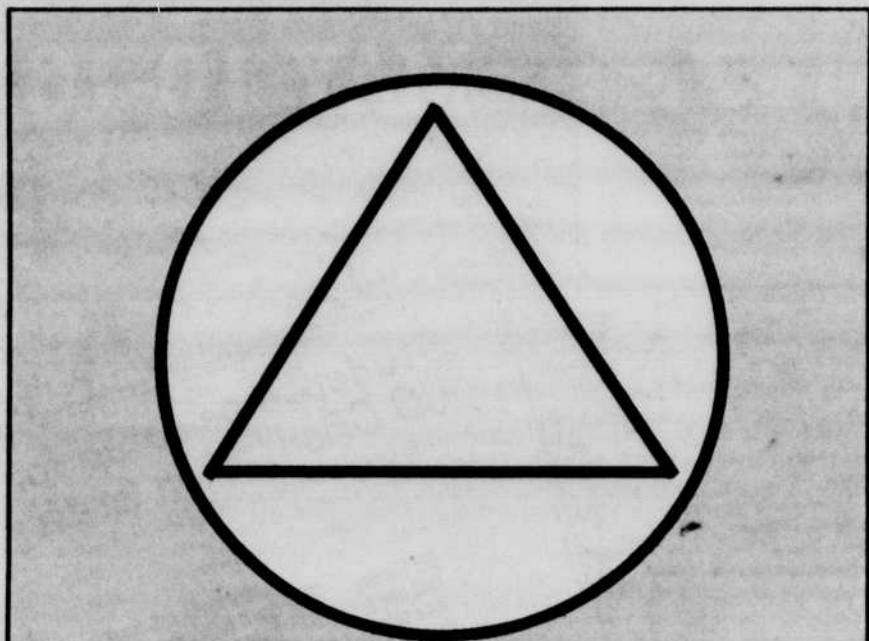
Career Planning and Placement Service will begin interview bidding today for the following companies in Room 244 Hendricks: Kmart, Johnson & Johnson and Forest City Trading Group. There will also be an office orientation today from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. in Room 221 Hendricks.

Department of Romance Language will present "Chant and Poetry of the Andes — A Contemporary Reflection" by Cecilia Vicuña today at 3:30 p.m. in the EMU Ben Linder Room.

Oregon Humanities Center will present "The Time-Compact Globe: Problems at the Anthill Threshold" by J.T. Fraser today at 4 p.m. in the EMU Gumwood Room.

Fine and applied arts department will have a photography exhibit this week. Tonight there will be an opening reception from 7 to 9 at the LaVerne Krause Gallery.

Muslim Student Association will have the Islamic Film Festival this week. *Spanish Muslims* will be shown tonight from 7 to 9 in the EMU Gumwood Room.



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